## City of Taunton Office of the Mayor



For Immediate Press Release: 01/29/2021 Contact Person: Radka Barter 508-821-1000

## Mayor O'Connell Announces COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Taunton, MA . . . Today Mayor Shaunna O'Connell announced updated information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine.

"My office is working daily with a number of city departments and local health organizations to make the COVID-19 vaccine available to our city residents," said Mayor O'Connell. "We are focused on the safety of our seniors and ensuring they have the information they need to get vaccinated. I encourage people to call our COVID-19 Hotline at 774.406.5898 with any questions."

All Phase 1 groups are eligible for the vaccine and can make appointments to receive the vaccine at more than 150 locations across the state including first responder only sites, the newly opened mass vaccination site at Gillette Stadium, regional vaccination sites and participating CVS Health and Walgreens pharmacies.

Governor Baker announced this week that Phase 2 of the Massachusetts COVID-19 vaccination plan will begin Monday, February 1, starting with individuals 75 years and older as the first priority group. Some locations started scheduling vaccinations for these individuals as early as Wednesday, January 27th. Individuals 65 years and older and those with 2 comorbid conditions will be the second priority group in Phase 2.

Residents eligible for the vaccine should consider all available options for vaccination, beginning with their Primary Care Provider. Residents may also check the vaccination sites map on mass.gov to see locations across the state where they may be able to schedule vaccination depending on the available vaccine supply.

"The biggest challenge we face in moving forward is the unpredictability of the availability of the vaccine. Right now, there are more people who want the vaccine than there are available vaccines. As the state replenishes its stock of vaccines, we will be able to make strides in providing the vaccine more widely," said Mayor O'Connell.

The state is launching a number of mass vaccination sites, including Gillette Stadium, which is already open, and Fenway Park which is scheduled to open on February 1st. Massachusetts is also partnering with CVS, Walgreens, Stop & Shop, and Hannaford to offer the vaccine within their pharmacies.

The COVID-19 vaccine is also expected to be available through clinics managed by our local Board of Health and local health care providers. More information on these clinics will be posted when available.

For further updates, please refer to mass.gov/covid and taunton-ma.gov.

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